GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:726
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006
LEASING OF LUGGAGE VANS IN TRAINS TO PRIVATE CONTRACTOR
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have leased out some of the luggage vans in trains to private contractors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the private contractors are charging much higher amount than the charges fixed by the Railways and the passengers/ small traders are facing a lot of difficulties; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (d): With a view to maximise the utilisation of Brakevans and thereby increase earnings, Railways had launched a scheme for leasing of parcel space in Brakevans (SLRs). Under the scheme, parcel space in Brakevans (SLRs) of passenger carrying trains is leased out to private operators by inviting bids through open tenders. Parcel space in Brakevans (SLRs) of approximate 200 trains has been leased out so far. The leaseholder, whosoever offers highest bid over and above the reserve price, is awarded the leasing contract for parcel space in the Brakevans (SLRs). Further, leaseholders provide door-to-door service to their customers including road-bridging from party`s premises to his godown and from his godown to railway station. The leaseholder collects remuneration from his customers for providing additional value-added service to his customers. Passengers /small traders can book their consignments through Railway at railway parcel offices, which is cleared in the rear Brakevans (SLRs) of trains, which have not been leased out.